

(12) United States Patent

Goertz et al.

(54) LIGHT-BASED TOUCH SCREEN WITH SHIFT-ALIGNED EMITTER AND RECEIVER LENSES

(75) Inventors: Magnus Goertz, Lidingo (SE); Thomas Eriksson, Stocksund (SE): Joseph Shain, Rehovot (IL); Anders Jansson, Älta (SE); Niklas Kvist, Varmdo (SE); Robert Pettersson, Hägersten (SE); Lars Sparf, Vällingby (SE); John Karlsson, Märsta (SE)

(73) Assignee: Neonode Inc., San Jose, CA (US)

Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this (*) Notice:

patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 212 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

Appl. No.: 13/052,511

Filed: Mar. 21, 2011 (22)

(65)**Prior Publication Data**

US 2011/0163998 A1 Jul. 7, 2011

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 12/371,609, filed on Feb. 15, 2009, now Pat. No. 8,339,379, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 10/494,055, filed as application No.

(Continued)

(51) Int. Cl. G06F 3/042 (2006.01)G06F 3/041 (2006.01)

U.S. Cl. (52)

CPC G06F 3/0416 (2013.01); G06F 3/042 (2013.01); G06F 3/0421 (2013.01); G06F 3/0425 (2013.01); G06F 3/0428 (2013.01)

(58) Field of Classification Search CPC G06F 3/042 USPC 345/156, 173, 175, 176, 179 See application file for complete search history.

US 9,471,170 B2 (10) Patent No.:

(45) Date of Patent: *Oct. 18, 2016

(56)References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,243,879 A 1/1981 Carroll et al. 4,267,443 A * 5/1981 Carroll et al. 250/221 (Continued)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EP 0601651 A1 6/1994 JP 11-232024 A 8/1999 (Continued)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Moeller, J. and Kerne, A., Scanning FTIR: Unobtrusive Optoelectronic Multi-Touch Sensing through Waveguide Transmissivity Imaging, TEI '10 Proceedings of the Fourth International Conference on Tangible, Embedded, and Embodied Interaction, Jan. 25-27, 2010, pp. 73-76. ACM, New York, NY.

(Continued)

Primary Examiner - Kumar Patel Assistant Examiner — Afroza Chowdhury (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — Soquel Group LLC

ABSTRACT

A touch screen including a housing, a display mounted in the housing, a plurality of collimating lenses mounted in the housing along two opposite edges of the display and arranged along the two edges so as to be shift-aligned relative to one another, a plurality of light pulse emitters mounted in the housing that are spaced apart from and transmit light pulses through the collimating lenses of one of the two edges over the display, a plurality of light pulse receivers mounted in the housing that are spaced apart from and receive the light pulses through the collimating lenses of the opposite of the two edges, and a calculating unit, mounted in the housing and connected to the receivers, that determines a location of a pointer on the display that partially blocks the light pulses transmitted by the emitters, based on outputs of the receivers.

26 Claims, 103 Drawing Sheets

